

**Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary
Sanctuary Advisory Council
2/15/02**

Sanctuary Advisory Council (SAC) Members

Jim Bybee	National Marine Fisheries Service
Daniel Cohen	Research seat (alternate)
Josh Curchman	Maritime Activity seat (alternate)
Bill McMillon	Education seat (alternate)
Thomas Lambert	Conservation seat
Joe Smith	Community-at-Large seat
Kathy Soave	Conservation seat (alternate)

Special Guest:

Dan Basta, Director	Office of National Marine Sanctuaries
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Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary Staff:

Michael Carver	Biological Technician
Roweena Forest	Administrative Support
Dan Howard	Assistant Manager
Jan Roletto	Research Coordinator
Jennifer Stock	Education Specialist
Ed Ueber	Sanctuary Manager

Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary SAC Member:

Richard Charter	Conservation seat
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Copies to:

All attending	
Carol Kieper	Research seat
Doreen Moser	Education seat

**Introductions of Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council
Members and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary Staff**

Overview of the National Marine Sanctuary System by Dan Basta

- The Sanctuary will be investing in visitor centers and exhibits across the country.
- The Sanctuary System is acquiring new vessels.
- New Sanctuary at Thunder Bay in Michigan to protect shipwrecks.
- The Sanctuaries job is to be on the water.
- Currently operate two aircraft: one at the Channel Islands and the other in the Florida Keys.
- The Sanctuary has 260 employees across the country.

- The Northwest Hawaiian Islands Marine Reserve is a new major addition to the Sanctuary program.
- First SAC was created in 1991 in the Florida Keys.
- Public participation is a key method for achieving change in the Sanctuary System.
- The National Marine Sanctuary System is a collection of ecosystem-based management areas.
- A National Marine Sanctuary Foundation (NMSF) was established in 2001.

Board Members:

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First Vice President, Investments First of Michigan

Secretary

Jim Tulip

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Michael Murphy, Disney

Robert Lynn Nelson

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Software Engineer, Cisco Systems

Ex-Officio Members

Margaret Davidson

Acting Administrator, National Ocean Service

Dan Basta

Director, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries

Lori Arguelles
Executive Director

- The first Oceans Day on Capital Hill was sponsored by the NMSF last year.
- Education is a key function of the Sanctuary Program. We need to mobilize a greater constituency for the Sanctuary System.
- The contact information in the Sanctuary Advisory Council Member Directory will be distributed to the Ocean Commission
- SAC members may be contacted by the Ocean Commission.

Overview of the Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary

Background

- Cordell Expeditions, a non-profit, documented the diversity and abundance of life on Cordell Bank and was instrumental in the designation of the Sanctuary.
- CBNMS cooperatively works with other institutions such as the Bodega Marine Laboratory.
- The Berring to Baja Sanctuary cruise will begin the end of February and will focus on bringing attention to the larger marine ecosystem that the 5 West Coast Marine Sanctuaries are apart of.
- Would like to host the CBNMS SAC members on a cruise to Cordell Bank in the Fall.

Research and Monitoring

- Work cooperatively with Bodega Marine Lab, San Francisco State University, Moss Marine Laboratory
- The Sanctuary is conducting research to characterize benthic habitats at Cordell Bank with 2-person submersible and remotely operated vehicles (ROV)
- Also conducting research to estimate biomass of krill, a keystone species, at the Bank using acoustic equipment
- Revising the 5-Year Research Plan for the Sanctuary
- Want to integrate research with education programs

Education and Outreach

- Work cooperatively with the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary, Farallones Marine Sanctuary Association, and the National Park Service
- Lead wildlife watching trips and outings
- Visit schools
- Lead interpretive programs
- Address larger audiences at outreach fairs

Small Boat Program

- 27 foot boat used in cooperation with Bodega Marine Lab researchers in the Sanctuary
- Investigate juvenile rockfish recruitment
- Take teachers out on the vessel to participate in research occurring in the Sanctuary
- New vessel 33 foot Gasky will be used for marine mammal observations in the Sanctuary

Overview of Sanctuary Advisory Council Roles and Responsibilities

Council Roles and Responsibilities

- Each member represents a constituency and must keep abreast of their constituencies
- Every meeting will have a public comment period
- The contact information in the Sanctuary Advisory Council Member Handbook will be posted on the National Marine Sanctuary Program web site

Review of Handbook

- The Office of National Marine Sanctuaries is under the Department of Commerce and is a sister agency of the National Marine Fisheries Service
- The binders include:
 - Contact list and bios
 - Sanctuary Advisory Council Oath and Charter
 - Sanctuary enabling legislation and regulations
 - Sanctuary permit application information
 - Background information on CBNMS

Goals of the Sanctuary Advisory Council

- Help protect the resources of the marine sanctuary
- Advise the Sanctuary Manager on issues of concern from the represented constituency
- Identify upcoming issues for your constituency
- Understand and inform your constituency of marine sanctuary issues and needs

Expectations of the Sanctuary Advisory Council

- Maintain open access and outreach to your constituency
- Accurately portray opinions from all segments of your represented constituency
- Publicly represent marine sanctuary goals, projects, and priorities

How Meetings Are Conducted

- Agenda items need to be received 30 days in advance of the meeting
- All SAC meetings are public meetings
- SAC meetings are advertised in advance
- Meeting notes are taken and the official transcript is a tape of the meeting
- The SAC will set the agenda for the meeting

- The SAC charter can be amended and additional members may be added

SAC Role in the Management Plan Review Process

Joint Management Plan Review: Cordell Bank, Gulf of the Farallones, Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuaries.

The Management Plan

- A site specific document used to manage a sanctuary
- Contains regulations
- Sets priorities; present programs and projects
- Guides the development of future activities
- Outlines shared local state and federal authorities
- Defines boundaries

Management Plan Review

- Updates the guiding documents
- Examines and potentially changes general sanctuary operations and specific administrations

Key steps

- Assemble personnel to initiate internal review-completed
- Release state of the sanctuary report-completed
- Host public scoping meetings-completed
- Narrow priority issues
- Host public workshops to develop action plans
- Release draft management plan
- Host public comment meetings on draft plan
- Release final management plan
- Total time: approximately 2-3 years

The scoping process

Scoping process provided an opportunity to hear from a broad spectrum

Major issue categories (not prioritized)

- Wildlife disturbances
- Habitat alterations
- Marine bioprospecting
- Acoustic impacts
- Boundary modifications
- SAC
- Enforcement
- Community partnerships
- Agency partnerships

- Spill response and planning
- Oil & gas activities
- Personal watercraft
- Military activities
- Marine debris and discharge
- User conflicts
- Coastal armoring
- Vessel traffic
- Aquaculture
- Coastal development
- Water quality
- Radioactive waste
- Exotic species
- Community outreach
- Ecosystem management
- Monitoring

Criteria for Prioritizing Issues

1. Threshold question

Does the NMSP have the institutional responsibility and/or authority to address this issue?

2. Site Benefits

Does addressing this issue have positive site benefits to the natural resources?

3. Urgency

Levels of urgency:

- A. develop strategies*
- B. develop a framework*
- C. defer action*

4. Feasibility

Does the Sanctuary have the necessary people resources/skills funding, infrastructure and technical capability to address this issue?

Joint SAC Meeting Format with Monterey Bay and Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuaries

- Recap of management plan review process
- Recap of scoping comment categories
- Explanation of issue prioritization process
- Break into three small groups (10 SAC members per group)
- Presentation of individual SAC members two top priority issues
- Apply priority ranking criteria to all sites
- Rank issues by short, medium or long term priorities

Next Steps for Issue Prioritization

- Summarize SAC issue prioritization meeting results in document for public distribution
- Joint staff meeting to review and revise issue prioritization results
- Assign issues to staff and or SAC members
- Form working groups to characterize issues
- Staff develops final issue characterizations for action plans

A biogeographic analysis of marine biological resources off North/Central California: A mid-course update to assist with management plan review

- Biogeographic characterization of each sanctuary.
- Develop a geographic information system (GIS) of major/selected living marine biologically-related resources for the study area.
- An ecological linkage report that complements the GIS analyses.
- Develop a GIS tool for CA sanctuary staff.
- Develop a project web site.

Nominations for Chair and Vice-chair must be received by February 28, 2002 for the March 1st meeting. Nominations should be sent to Harriet Lew at hlew@farallones.org or (415) 561-6625.

Agenda items for next board meeting

- Public comment
- Election of officers
- Management plan review issue prioritization for CBNMS

**JOINT SANCTUARY ADVISORY COUNCIL WORKSHOP DATE:
APRIL 15, 2002
HALF MOON BAY**

**NEXT CBNMS SAC MEETING:
May 1, 2002
Sebastopol
9:00 AM**

All After reviewing these minutes, if you have any comments or corrections, please notify Harriet Lew at hlew@farallones.org.